



SaferFOODS Corporation

Treated by irradiation instead of chemicals for protection and safety

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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fisher Lane Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

It is a well-documented fact that as we progress with new technologies aimed at eradicating life-threatening organisms from our environment and our foods, other organisms emerge, particularly in the absence of their previous predators and other phagocytes. Although these advances in technology tend to disrupt the microbiological ecosystem of our modern society, we honestly hope that their overall benefits greatly outweigh their risks.

It is also a well-documented fact that food irradiation is a technological advance, which is compatible and necessary in our technologically advanced modern society and that its health benefits greatly outweigh its alleged risks but without altering the microbiological ecosystem.

Food irradiation is a proven safe process that will help save lives and one that informed consumers are willing to accept and embrace. A recent survey conducted jointly by the Food Marketing Institute and the Grocery Manufacturers of America shows that:

- **9 out of 10 consumers feel that protection from disease is "an important reason to buy irradiated foods".**
- **4 out of 5 consumers say they would buy a food product for themselves or their children that carry the label "irradiated to kill harmful bacteria".**
- **The endorsement of irradiation by health-oriented organizations [FDA, NIH, AMA etc] would strike a positive chord among the large majority of consumers.**

As such, it is important that all consumers equate irradiated foods with **safety and health**. Furthermore, it is a socially constructive responsibility for health-oriented organizations such as the FDA, NIH, AMA, etc., to educate consumers about food irradiation technology and its inherent benefits in preventing food-borne diseases. The universally accepted symbol of irradiated foods, the radura should remain an integral part of the identification of all irradiated foods and should continue to be properly displayed on all irradiated foods to help consumers equate it with safety and health. Just as some brands are synonymous with quality, the radura should become a synonym of confidence.

It is interesting to note that recently, a student from South America asked me for any documented evidence to the negative effects of food irradiation on human health because she could not find any and wanted to write a fair balanced Thesis on the subject. Frankly, despite my additional research, I couldn't find any either.

Respectfully submitted,


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